

Application No: 10/'' 2,540

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) An engine starter comprising a reel to be rotated by a rope wound around the reel, a first spring, a second spring, both of the first and second springs being wound up by the rotation of the reel, an engine starting pulley to be rotated by the second spring for driving a crank shaft of an engine, means for selectively manually connecting together the engine starting pulley and the reel and a centrifugal clutch inserted between the engine starting pulley and the crank shaft of the engine, wherein a spring force accumulated in the second spring is dissipated ~~dwinded~~ ~~[[in]]~~ to zero when the rope is recoiled around the reel by the first and the second springs.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Original) The engine starter as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a cover connected to the reel so as to be positioned between the engine starting pulley and the second spring.

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4. (Cancelled)

5. (New) An engine starter comprising:

a reel to be rotated by a rope wound around the reel,

a first spring,

a second spring,

both of the first and second springs being wound up by the rotation of the reel,

an engine starting pulley to be rotated by the second spring to drive a crank shaft of an engine,

a connecting member interposed between the engine starting pulley and the reel and being shiftable between an engaged position and a disengaged position wherein in the engaged position connecting member directly rotatably connects the starting pulley to the reel and in the disengaged position the starting pulley and the reel are rotatably connected by the second spring; and

a centrifugal clutch inserted between the engine starting pulley and the crank shaft of the engine, wherein a spring force accumulated in the second spring is dissipated to zero when the rope is recoiled around the reel by the first and the second springs.

6. (New) The engine starter as claimed in claim 5, in which the connecting member comprises a plate spring.

7. (New) The engine starter as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a connecting rod capable of moving the connecting member into the engaged position.

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8. (New) The engine starter as claimed in claim 7, in which the connecting rod comprises a manually operable screw.